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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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1. RESTRICTIONS ON FIRING GIVEN CHINESE
NATIONALIST ARTILLERY ON QUEMOYS

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American officials comment that if the heavy Communist firing of 24 June was for the purpose of discouraging indiscriminate Nationalist firing at fishing boats, merchant ships, and villages, it has apparently had this effect.

Artillery fire in the Quemoy area has slackened. Since 27 June, Nationalist artillery has not fired and the Communists have fired only a few rounds, most of them propaganda leaflet shells.

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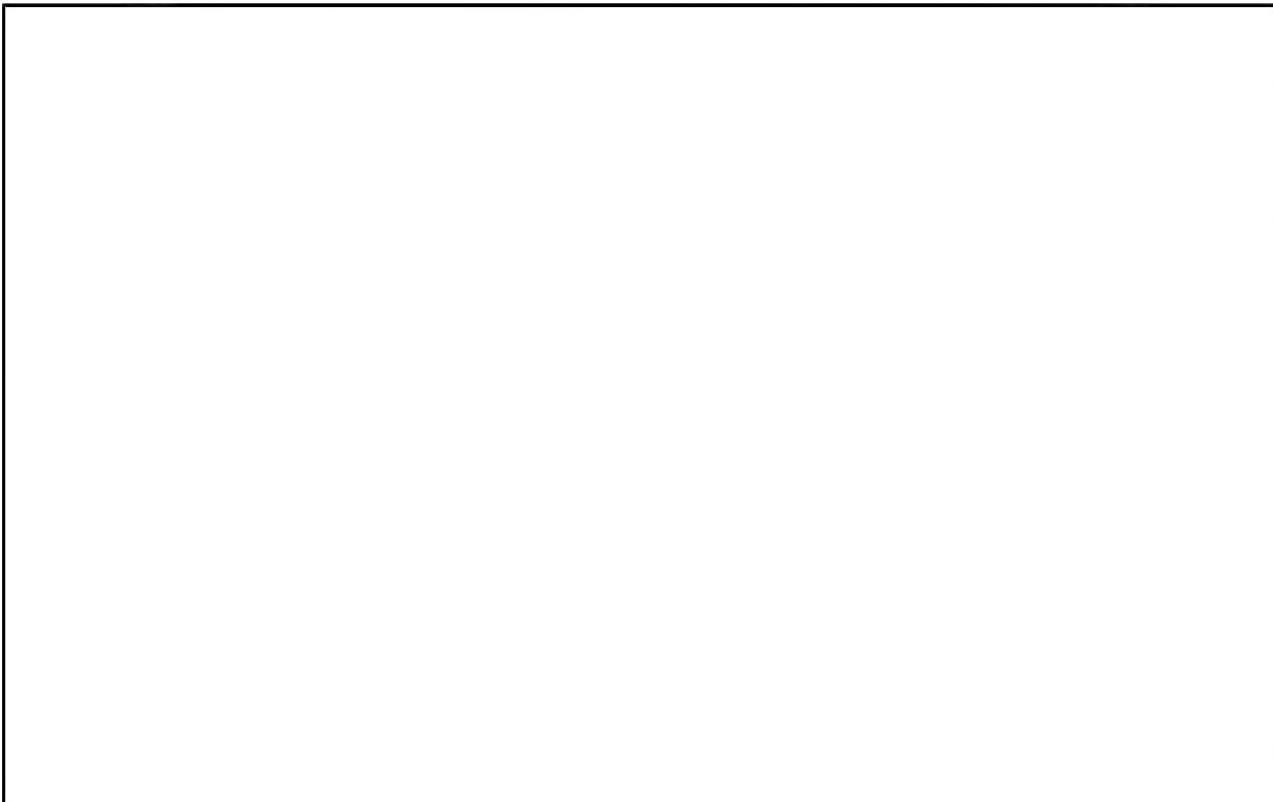
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3. FRANCE SEEN STEPPING UP TEMPO OF
ALGERIAN OPERATIONS

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Comment

The heavy support the French Socialist Party has just voted for a continuation of the strong policy in Algeria will encourage Bourges-Maunoury's emphasis on pacification prior to a political settlement. A new drive has been begun to clear rebel influence from the mountainous region north of Constantine so that a "pilot zone" can be established to permit political reforms at the local level. Bourges-Maunoury's aim is to hold local elections and to work out a new statute for Algeria which would permit some local autonomy. The government has no intention, however, of relinquishing control over the area.

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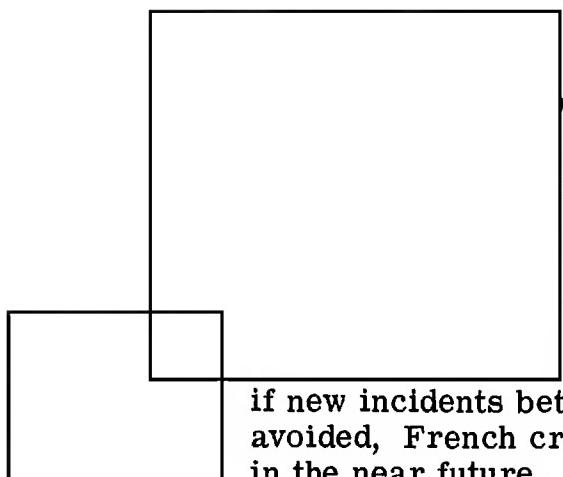
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4. FRENCH-TUNISIAN RELATIONS

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The French decision last week to withdraw a substantial number of troops from Tunisia should contribute to the detente which has been developing in French-Tunisian relations since mid-June. Tunisian premier Bourghiba now may be willing to take stronger measures against Algerian militants in Tunisia, and if new incidents between the French and Tunisians can be avoided, French credits may again become available to Tunis in the near future.

Paris has decided to shift a division of between 10,000 and 15,000 French troops to the Algerian side of the Tunisian frontier and to regroup at the Bizerte base and five other points the remainder of its 25,000 ground forces in Tunisia, as well as 10,000 naval and air force personnel. The American embassy in Tunis believes the movements contemplated will reduce but not eliminate the danger of further clashes between French troops and armed Tunisians. The French action apparently falls considerably short of Bourghiba's demand that all French forces in Tunisia be concentrated in the Bizerte area--a condition which still must be met, he indicated on 27 June, before he will enter into negotiations with France for a common defense arrangement.

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5. BURMA TO EXTEND CONTRACTS OF SOVIET AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIANS

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The Burmese government decided in mid-June to extend all Soviet agricultural technical assistance projects until 1960, [redacted]

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[redacted] The government has already extended for one year the contracts of the 22 Soviet agricultural experts, which would have expired in November, and Soviet-developed agricultural projects have been assigned top priority under Prime Minister Nu's revised four-year plan.

Burma is reported highly pleased with the over-all performance of Soviet technicians, as projects under their supervision are moving satisfactorily. [redacted]

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Comment

The Soviet agricultural team's main efforts seem to be concentrated on the construction of a complex of dams for irrigation of arid sections of upper Burma. At least one of the projects in this program has been judged impracticable by American engineers.

The completion of the Soviet program will fulfill an important agricultural need in Burma, and will go far toward making up for Burma's earlier dissatisfaction over its barter trade with the USSR. In addition, the Soviets seem to have made a good impression with some of their other projects, notably the technological institute which they will soon complete in Rangoon.